

Rocky Hill Board of Health Minutes of the meeting 9/8/09

Attending: Susan Fisher VMD, Mary Germain EdD, APRN-BC, FNAP, Lisbeth Haines MD, Beverly Poelstra MD

Also attending: Linda Goldman (Borough Council Liaison), John Horensky and Benjamin Strong of Somerset County Department of Health.

Excused: Margaret Querec MSN RN

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr Haines at 435 pm, prior notice being given in compliance with chapter 231 of the Open Public Meeting Act.

Review of Minutes

Review of minutes of 6/7/09 meeting. Motion was made by Dr. Poelstra to approve minutes as written and seconded by Dr. Fisher. Approved unanimously.

Welcome to Somerset County Dept of Health

Dr. Haines clarified the roles of various individuals due to our new association with SCDOH. Other towns which are using the SCDOH services include North Plainfield, Bedminster, Far Hills and Franklin Township, as of Oct 1st.

Dr Haines introduced the current board members to Mr. Horensky, Health Officer for Somerset County and Mr. Strong, our board liaison.

Mr. Strong is the partnership planner and coordinator for SCDOH, and he will be attending our meetings regularly. He will assume an educational role, and act as a link for us with the county DOH and State DOH resources.

Also a member of SCDOH but one who will not be attending meetings is Dawn Prandi, a registered Environmental Health Specialist. She will respond to various hazards, investigate complaints (noise, odors, etc.), and oversee inspections of registered facilities. Mr Strong will be the primary contact for problems, although he may employ other personnel to follow up on issues.

There have been no issues related to the transition to date. South Brunswick Health Department will forward records to the county. Mr. Uhrik and Ms. Prandi have been in close communication in Mr. Papenberg's absence.

Board to keep residents informed of the switch. Dr Haines will update our communication sheet to reflect our new association with SCDOH. Dr. Fisher will update website to contain contact info for county personnel. Issues during off hours should be directed to dispatcher at the main number for the county, who will page Mr Strong. County website will be updated to include Rocky Hill. Ms. Goldman will update the Rocky Hill website.

Mr. Strong will have a meeting with Donna Griffiths, Rocky Hill Borough Clerk, to review licenses and permits and inspections. Rocky Hill will continue to collect fees. County will be notified and they will go out and perform inspections. All records are now maintained electronically.

Old/Continuing Business

- Municipal Alliance -- Last meeting attended by Dr. Poelstra. MA is organizing a meeting to bring together various groups in the community who share the common goals of the MA, which is preventing drug and alcohol abuse, with the intention of sharing and coordinating resources and identifying community needs. The meeting will occur at the Elks Club in November.

- Deer Removal -- Contract will continue to be covered by South Brunswick and will be billed on an individual deer basis. The county will reimburse us only for deer removed from county roads. Mr. Papenberg will coordinate this.
- SCDOH Agreement -- Formal agreement for services, was approved at state level by Rich Masser, however Dr. Haines did not receive a copy yet.
- Child Health -- Coverage will be on an as needed basis through Princeton Health Care System.
- H1N1 -- Dr. Haines reminded the board that there are two flus this year. She will make educational flyer for distribution by RH Community Group to remind the general population. Mr. Horensky will provide samples of information, so that it is consistent with what provided to other towns. Will contact Cliff Moore about press release once we have more information about specifics for H1N1 clinics.

H1N1 vaccine due to be distributed end of October or early November. Not sure how this will be distributed yet, as dates and quantities are unsure. Distribution will be population based. No known contraindications yet. May need second shot for certain age groups.

Dr. Haines and Mr. Horensky met with Alan Querec, Borough Emergency Management Coordinator, last month to iron out some of the details. Dr. Haines provided a copy of the RHBOH H1N1 plan, a work in progress.

Federal government provides all vaccine, but there may be a charge for administration, depending on location. Government will provide the rest of the package including bandaids, sharps disposal, and administrative work. Need WiFi access to hook up for record keeping, and county will provide this. NCR forms will be provided to patients.

Staffing for clinics to be provided by combination of VNA and Medical Reserve Corps. VNA charges have not been built into the contract we have with SCDOH but will have to be worked out. Any persons who volunteer for Medical Reserve Corps to administer vaccine will be covered by the county liability insurance, as per Mr. Horensky.

Preschoolers will need to have vaccine provided by their pediatrician. Borough is responsible for wellness care for people who do not have insurance as per state law. If someone in town is in need, they will be referred to the University Medical Center at Princeton, screened by UMCP social workers, and the Borough will pick up the tab. School age children will likely receive vaccine at school. Therefore H1N1 clinics in Rocky Hill will serve the adult population. May need to have more than one clinic, since second dose is required, a minimum of 3 weeks apart.

- Dates for Rocky Hill seasonal flu clinic Oct 29, 2009 9-11 am at Reformed Church and has already been arranged by Somerset County Health Department.

New Business

Dr. Haines discussed vacation coverage from October 14 to November 1, as she will be out of the country. Dr. Fisher will be away from Sept 13-25. Dr. Poelstra will cover in their absence.

Next Meeting

October 13, 2009 at 4:30 pm Borough Hall

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

A motion was made by Dr. Fisher and seconded by Dr Germain. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly A. Poelstra MD, FAAP